Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, GR, TU, CY, UN

SUBJECT: UN CONFERENCE ON STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

REF: ATHENS 8213

1. THE CONFERENCE ENDED ON SEPTEMBER 7 WITH NO FURTHER EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE CYPRIOT AND TURKISH DELEGATIONS, ACCORDING TO DR. BURRILL OF THE U.S. DELEGATION. AN ATTEMPT BY THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION DURING THE FINAL PLENARY SESSION TO HAVE THE RESOLUTION CO-SPONSORED BY GUATEMALA AND GREECE DELETED FRONTZHE CONFERENCE REPORT BECAUSE OF ITS POLITICAL CONNOTATION WAS UNSUCCESSFUL.

2. DR. BURRILL TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER ON SEPTEMBER 8
THAT THE RESOLUTION MAY POP UP AGAIN DURING SESSIONS
OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES OR IN
FUTURE CONFERENCES IN THE CONTEXT OF CYPRUS, THE WEST BANK
OR OTHER SIMILAR SITUATIONS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED
CONCERN THAT INCREASING POLITICIZATION OF CONFERENCE
DELIBERATIONS, WHICH HE BELIEVES WAS MORE PRONOUNCED
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THIS YEAR THAN AT ANY PREVIOUS CONFERENCE, MAY JEOPARDIZE THE GROUP'S FUTURE TECHNICAL EFFECTIVENESS.

3. COMMENT: GREEK NEWS MEDIA, INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT-OPERATED RADIO AND TELEVISION NEWS SERVICES, HAVE GIVEN ROUTINE COVERAGE TO PASSAGE OF THE

RESOLUTION. ALTHOUGH THEY INTERPRET ITS ADOPTION AS CONDEMNATION OF TURKISH NAME CHANGING IN CYPRUS, THE RESOLUTION ITSELF IS DESCRIBED ACCURATELY ON THE BASIS OF THE ACTUAL TEXT.

4. DR. BURRIL'S CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS ARE BEING POUCHED AT HIS REQUEST TO THE OFFICE OF THE GEOGRAPHER. MILLS

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Message Attributes

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